

The Morning Astorian

ESTABLISHED 1873

PUBLISHED BY

ASTORIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

RATES.

By mail, per year \$6 00
By mail, per month 50
By carriers, per month 60

THE SEMI-WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

By mail, per year, in advance \$1 00



THE CZAR'S MERCY.

All the world has been informed of the exceeding grace and mercy of the czar shown to his subjects on the occasion of the baptism of his son, the future autocrat of all the Russias. By imperial ukase, and of his own will, as the sole source of human rights in his empire, he abolished the use of the knout, remitted certain fines and relieved some provinces of the punishment of the innocent for evasions of military duty for which they were not responsible.

The Russian press has hailed these acts of grace with a chorus of ascription to the tyrant of the empire, says the Call. The rest of the world, and especially the people of the nations who are free, have received a fine object lesson in the difference between autocracy and freedom. Especially in this country and in England the people have been long accustomed to enjoyment of the rights of man, entrenched in the law of the land and beyond the meddling reach of any ruler.

This came about by recognition of the existence of certain inalienable rights in man, natural rights, which neither those who enjoy them nor those who would take them away can alienate, limit, or destroy. The history of civilization is the history of this development of the law as a system to protect natural rights and leave man secure in their employment. It is a system that grew from the people outwardly and upwardly and did not descend upon them as the gift of a man like themselves. But for a thousand years, from Rurik to Nicholas, the people of Russia have had none of the rights of humanity, except as a gift from the czar. Their homes are not inviolable, their property is not their own, their personal rights are limited, and they have lived from age to age subordinated, dependent and oppressed, sometimes receiving from one czar privileges which another czar has taken away.

The czar considers himself bound by solemn treaties entered into by his predecessors to secure the allegiance of peoples brought under the rule of the empire. In the grand duchy of Finland the Finns were the beneficiaries of a treaty that left them in possession of their ancient rights and that secured the franchise of humanity. They had their schools and universities, their free press and security of person and property. They had a judicial system and the courts protected them in the rights of man. But the czar, who has handed out a lean and meager dish of mercy to his subjects revoked and violated that treaty, destroyed the last vestige of Finnish freedom and put the grand duchy under the hard heel of the Cossack. If he had desired to do things merciful he should have begun by dispensing justice and restoring the ancient rights of Finland guaranteed by his ancestors.

But meager as the gift of the czar is, it is not based upon any merit or right of his people. If the few things given them were theirs of right they should have had them long ago. If they have the right not to be flogged with the pout for trivial offenses, that degradation should never have been put upon them. If all the restrictions removed were wrong they were always wrong and never should have been imposed.

They are removed now because a son has been born to the czar! He had already three daughters, and at their birth and baptism had remained callous to the sufferings and obdurate to the needs of the Russian people.

Now the physiological accident of sex in a child has moved him to dole out these slender and insufficient mercies. An event in his family that is of constant occurrence in the families of his empire is made the occasion of doing that which should not have been necessary or possible if his people were regarded as anything but his personal chattels and the footstool of his power. If the child had been a girl the world would not have been notified of his exceeding grace made affluent by a purely domestic event in his household. The knout would still have been cutting the soft flesh and drawing the blood of his subjects, and whole provinces would be given over to the Cossack whips in punishment for individual evasions of military duty.

To an American the whole suggestion is revolting. Here the people have rights that individual rulers did not give, cannot enlarge and are powerless to take away. We are not looking beyond ourselves for acts of grace and mercy. The birth of a son in any of our homes is the coming of a man to be a

sovereign among sovereigns, the equal of millions of rulers of an empire greater than the czar's. The birth of an American boy is of more significance to the world than the coming of a dozen sons to the czar. The American boy is in his cradle a potential defender of the inalienable rights of man. The czar's son, clad in purple and given titles with his nursing bottle, is a potential oppressor of human beings and a born defender of the tyranny of the few over the many.

AN 'OVERLOOKED' POSSIBILITY.

One of the odd things about the discussion over the character of the future government of the Philippines is the general assumption that the inhabitants of that archipelago are certain in time to demand absolute territorial independence. It does not seem to be admitted for a moment—at least, on the part of "anti-imperialists"—that the Filipinos might become so satisfied with American domination, or, rather, American overlordship, of their islands that they would not care for an absolutely independent government.

Canada is not strictly a free country. She enjoys practically a full measure of self-rule, so far as Canadian matters are concerned, but still she is a dependency of Great Britain. There is very little clamor in the dominion, however, for national independence, and that, too, although a large part of her population is of French extraction and speaks the French language. She is content with British suzerainty, wisely realizing that thereby she gains the protection of the entire British empire, without being under the necessity of maintaining a large standing army and navy of her own.

Much the same is true of Australia, New Zealand, Cape Colony and other British dependencies. There is no demand in these countries for national independence. The people of these dependencies understand that national independence carries with it certain responsibilities and burdens from which, under present conditions, they are free. Even Ireland is no longer demanding absolute independence. John Redmond, who has just arrived in the United States for the purpose of promoting the Irish cause, declares that the aim of Ireland now is simply "self-government," such as is enjoyed by the different states of the American union. How could Ireland protect herself against foreign attack as an independent nation?

Why may it not be that the Filipinos, after due civic education and experience, will reach a frame of mind similar to that of the people of the British dependencies in question? Why may it not be that, given an adequate measure of self-rule in local affairs, they would stoutly protest against any attempt to sever completely the ties that now bind their archipelago to this republic? Why might they not insist on continued annexation to the United States, just as Hawaii sought the protecting folds of the stars and stripes?

Promise of ultimate national independence, for the Filipinos, such as Judge Parker proposes, may be well enough as a proof of our friendly disposition and disinterested intentions toward them, but the chances are that, as they grow in political intelligence and we continue to give them proper government, they will be as loath to part company with us as the people of Alaska, Hawaii, Porto Rico or any of the western territories now are.

The Portland Journal is mistaken in its statement that The Astorian has attempted an apology for the action of the fish warden in permitting the fishing laws to be violated this season. The Astorian has no apology to make for the fish warden, the packers or the fishermen. However, it has no sympathy for the local resident who, actuated by a desire to "get even" with some political enemy, seeks to arouse sentiment that can but result in injury to the industry. The Astorian deprecates the violation of the law. It has repeatedly stated that it deprecates this violation not because of any disastrous results that may follow to artificial propagation or natural propagation, but because the precedent was a dangerous one to establish. If the law is violated at one time without any effort to punish the violators, it may again be violated with the same security. The law should have been enforced—not because its terms should naturally have been applied this year, but merely because it was the law. The salmon should have been caught and fishing operations should have continued quite as long as they were continued. The law should have provided for such contingency. It made no such provision, however, and therefore the season should have ended August 15. The situation was a most deplorable one and The Astorian very much regrets that it ever arose.

The postmaster of a western city of considerable importance asks the consent of the postoffice department at Washington to employ women as mail carriers, declaring that the members of the weaker sex would be more trustworthy, prompt and faithful to duty than the men who are now under his orders; but in the worst stress of winter storms the gentler half of humanity could not be expected to endure hardships as sturdily as men can, and surely women would be out of place, for many reasons, in collecting and distributing mail in the most populous and most crowded communities.

PANAMA A BONDHOLDER.

Uncle Sam's Ten Million Being Invested in United States Securities.

New York, Sept. 2.—Agents of the Panama republic entrusted with investing nearly ten million dollars here for their government, have nearly completed the task. The fund is a part of the forty million dollars paid by the United States for the Panama canal.

About five millions have been invested in mortgages on improved property on Manhattan island, yielding 4½ per cent. Two millions are in deposits in four local trust companies drawing three per cent interest and about two millions has been subject to payments for improvements under construction or contracted for on the isthmus. The despoliation of the remainder of the ten millions has not been definitely decided upon. The payment of \$10,000,000 to Panama was made last May through a large banking house here. As the republic had no pressing need for the money it was left on deposit but netted only 2 per cent, so it was decided to invest in American real estate on bond and mortgage. A commission of two was sent to this city from Panama and since June 1, have accomplished their task.

Commissioner Arias says it is expected internal revenues, taxes and imposts of one sort and another, and the customs receipts will suffice, together with the interest received from the investments made here to keep the government going.

CONSTIPATION

"For over nine years I suffered with chronic constipation and during this time I had to take an injection of warm water once every 24 hours before I could have an action on my bowels. Happily I tried Cascarets, and today I am a well man. During the nine years before I used Cascarets I suffered untold misery with internal piles. Thanks to you I am free from all that this morning. You can see this in behalf of suffering humanity."

B. F. Fisher, Kansas, Ill.



Pleasant, Palatable, Potent, Taste Good, Do Good, Never Sicken, Weaken or Grip, 10c, 25c, 50c. Never sold in bulk. The genuine label stamped C.C.G. Guaranteed to cure or your money back.
Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or N.Y. 603
ANNUAL SALE, TEN MILLION BOXES

Office Constructing Quartermaster, Astoria, Ore., August 25, 1904.—Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at this office until 10 o'clock a. m., September 24, 1904, and then opened, for the construction of a frame pump house, removing and resetting old boiler, smokestack and machinery, furnishing and setting two new boilers and smokestack and make connections with wells; also change in distributing of water system and the setting and connecting of four generating sets for electric light at Fort Stevens, Ore. United States reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Plans can be seen and specifications obtained at this office. Envelopes should be marked "Proposals for construction" and addressed Captain Goodale, Quartermaster, Astoria, Oregon.

Always have some definite fact in your advertisement. Don't get tired of writing copy. People judge your store by your advertisements. If you haven't anything that will interest people your ads are not likely to bring people to your store.

The STAR THEATER

ASTORIA'S FASHIONABLE VAUDEVILLE HOUSE IN CONNECTION WITH STAR AND ARCADE THEATERS OF PORTLAND " " " "

Change of Program Monday.
Change of Acts Thursdays.

MONSTER BILL
Week Beginning
MONDAY MATINEE, AUGUST 29

MANDEVILLE SISTERS
Clever Soubrettes Introducing "Little June, the Child Wonder."

McCARVER & McCARVER
Singing and Dancing Duo.

GRACE DARNLEY
Acrobatic Dancer.

RANCE SMITH
Monologist.

EDWARD SCOTT
In the Pictured Ballad, "Way Down East."

EDISON'S LATEST PROJECTO-SCOPE

Introducing New and Up-to-Date Pictures.

Admission 10c to any seat.

P. A. STOKES

"The Store That Does Things"

We beg to announce to the public the opening of our Fall and Winter **DUNLAP HATS**. 'Tis a gentlemanly hat, built on gentlemanly lines, suitable to the most fastidious. Sold P. A. Stokes' way, money back if you want it. :: :: ::

See display in west window.

"The Store That Does Things"

P. A. STOKES

AN ASTORIA PRODUCT

Pale Bohemian Beer
Best In The Northwest

North Pacific Brewing Co.

Staple and Fancy Groceries

FLOUR, FEED, PROVISIONS, TOBACCO AND CIGARS.

Supplies of All Kinds at Lowest Prices for Fishermen, Farmers and Loggers.

Branch Uniontown, - - Phones, 711, - - Uniontown, 713

A. V. ALLEN,

Tenth and Commercial Streets. ASTORIA, OREGON.

PLUMBING and TINNING

STEAM HEATING, GAS FITTING, ROOFING AND REPAIRING
BATH TUBS, SINKS, CLOSETS AND OTHER FIXTURES IN STOCK. ONLY THE BEST. CALL AND GET OUR PRICES

J. A. Montgomery 425 Bond Street
Phone 1031

THE LOUVRE

A First Class Concert Hall - - - - - Finest Resort In The City

ADMISSION FREE

ATTRACTIVE PROGRAM CHANGE WEEKLY

Seventh and Astor Streets CHARLES WIRKKALA, Prop.